

## ABSTRACT

Pattern recognition capable of robust identification for the variance of an input pattern is performed with a low processing cost while the possibility of identification errors is decreased. In a pattern recognition apparatus which identifies the pattern of input data from a data input unit (11) by using a hierarchical feature extraction processor (12) which hierarchically extracts features, an extraction result distribution analyzer (13) analyzes a distribution of at least one feature extraction result obtained by a primary feature extraction processor (121). On the basis of the analytical result, a secondary feature extraction processor (122) performs predetermined secondary feature extraction.